



# Abbreviations

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<b>ADAP</b>	AIDS Drug Assistance Program	<b>HARS</b>	HIV and AIDS Reporting System
<b>AETC</b>	AIDS Education and Training Center	<b>HBV</b>	Hepatitis B Virus
<b>AHW</b>	AIDS Housing of Washington	<b>HCPC</b>	Virginia HIV Community Planning Committee
<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome	<b>HCV</b>	Hepatitis C Virus
<b>API</b>	Asians and Pacific Islanders	<b>HHS</b>	United States Department of Health and Human Services
<b>ART</b>	Antiretroviral Therapy	<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>CD4</b>	Cluster of Differentiation 4	<b>HRSA</b>	Health Resources and Services Administration
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	<b>IDU</b>	Injection Drug User
<b>CSA</b>	Childhood Sexual Abuse	<b>IRR</b>	Incidence Rate Ratio
<b>CSW</b>	Commercial Sex Worker	<b>KFF</b>	The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation
<b>CTR</b>	HIV Counseling, Testing and Referral	<b>LTBI</b>	Latent Tuberculosis Infection
<b>DC</b>	District of Columbia	<b>MAI</b>	Minority AIDS Initiative
<b>DDP</b>	Division of Disease Prevention	<b>MMWR</b>	Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report
<b>DTO</b>	Drug Trafficking Organization	<b>MPAETC</b>	Mountain Plains AIDS Education and Training Center
<b>EC</b>	Emerging Communities	<b>MSA</b>	Metropolitan Statistical Areas
<b>EMA</b>	Eligible Metropolitan Areas	<b>MSM</b>	Men who have Sex with Men
<b>EVMS</b>	Eastern Virginia Medical School	<b>MTF</b>	Male to Female
<b>FDA</b>	Food and Drug Administration	<b>NAMI</b>	National Alliance on Mental Illness
<b>FTM</b>	Female to Male	<b>NCFH</b>	National Center for Farmworker Health
<b>GLSEN</b>	Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network		
<b>HAART</b>	Highly Active Antiretroviral Treatment		

<b>NCH</b>	National Coalition for the Homeless	<b>USCIS</b>	United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
<b>NCLR</b>	National Council of La Raza	<b>USPHS</b>	United States Public Health Service
<b>NHBS</b>	National HIV Behavioral Surveillance System	<b>VACRS</b>	Virginia Client Reporting System
<b>NIDA</b>	National Institute on Drug Abuse	<b>VCU</b>	Virginia Commonwealth University
<b>nPEP</b>	Post Exposure Prophylaxis (nonoccupational)	<b>VDH</b>	Virginia Department of Health
<b>OMB</b>	Office of Management and Budget	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>PEP</b>	Post Exposure Prophylaxis		
<b>PTSD</b>	Post Traumatic Stress Disorder		
<b>RAINN</b>	Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network		
<b>SERL</b>	Survey Evaluation and Research Laboratory		
<b>SPAP</b>	State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program		
<b>SPNS</b>	Special Projects of National Significance		
<b>STD</b>	Sexually Transmitted Disease		
<b>STI</b>	Sexually Transmitted Infection		
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis		
<b>TES</b>	Total Early Syphilis		
<b>TGA</b>	Transitional Grant Areas		
<b>THIS</b>	Transgender Health Initiative Study		
<b>UNC</b>	University of North Carolina		
<b>USCF</b>	University of California, San Francisco		



# Technical Notes

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All data was tabulated using date of diagnosis by the Virginia Department of Health, Division of Disease Prevention, unless otherwise noted. Virginia surveillance data was accessed from the HIV/AIDS Reporting System (HARS) or the Sexually Transmitted Disease Management Information System (STDMS) during 2007. The Division of Disease Prevention encourages the ongoing and systematic collection of HIV/AIDS reporting from public and private providers and laboratories across the state. However, information is not available on persons who are HIV positive but not reported or who have not been tested.

Throughout the Profile, case definitions and time periods change to provide a broad analysis of HIV/AIDS, STDs and co-morbidities in Virginia. This was achieved by analyzing a variety of data sets. For each analysis the most current data is presented, but the date of data collection varies by source. Extensive literature reviews were conducted in order to include important contextual information for each population. In many cases, hyperlinks are included to provide easy access to online information.

## AIDS Case Definition Change

On January 1, 1993, the AIDS surveillance case definition for adolescents and adults, ages greater than or equal to 13 years, was expanded to include three additional clinical conditions (pulmonary tuberculosis, recurrent pneumonia, and invasive cervical cancer) as well as a laboratory marker of severe immunosuppression in HIV-infected persons.

## HIV and AIDS reporting

Virginia regulations require reporting of HIV and AIDS cases separately. As a result, a person can be listed as either a Virginia HIV case, a Virginia AIDS case, or as both (HIV and AIDS). A person first diagnosed with HIV infection with no AIDS defining events will always be an HIV case. If at a later time, the patient is diagnosed and reported as AIDS the person will be listed as both an HIV and AIDS case. If a patient's initial diagnosis and report of HIV infection is accompanied with an

AIDS defining event, the person will be listed as only an AIDS case.

## Living Cases

When active (e.g., review of charts at provider's offices) or passive (e.g., receipt of death certificate from Division of Vital Records) surveillance indicates that a patient with HIV or AIDS has died, the reporting database is updated to reflect this information. Living counts will be indicated.

## Report Date vs. Diagnosis Date

Time frames are selected based on either the date of report or date of diagnosis. The report date is the date the morbidity is entered into the database. Diagnosis date is the date the disease was diagnosed by a health professional. Statistical reports prepared based on diagnosis dates are likely to change over time, given that disease reports sometimes involve time lags of varying degrees.

## Geography

All location information is based on the address that is reported to the Division at the time of report.

## Geocoding

In 2002, the Division of Disease Prevention initiated geocoding of morbidity reports to ensure assignment of morbidity to the correct localities. As a result, disease burdens for health jurisdictions beginning in 2002 may differ from prior years.

## Incidence data

In general, diagnosis date reflects people diagnosed recently with HIV/AIDS and provides a better understanding of the epidemic and the need for HIV prevention and care services. However, this data does not show the total number of people infected because not all people are tested, some people are tested years after infection, and some are never reported.

## Rates

Crude rates were calculated as the number of diagnosed cases that occur in a specified population during a specified period of time divided by

the population at risk. Rates were calculated using population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. If population data was unavailable, counts are presented instead of rates.

### Transmission Risks

Men who have Sex with Men (MSM) includes men who report sexual contact with other men and men who report sexual contact with both men and women.

Multiple Heterosexual Contacts is defined as HIV or AIDS cases having had sexual relations with ten or more lifetime heterosexual partners or three or more heterosexual partners in the previous twelve months.

Undetermined/Unknown includes HIV cases not counseled due to medical reasons or those who refused counseling. Undetermined/Unknown also includes AIDS cases lost to surveillance follow-up and a risk could not be established.

It is possible for an adult/adolescent AIDS case to have a pediatric mode of transmission.

### Age Groups

HIV tabulations are based on the person's age when the earliest positive HIV test was documented. AIDS age group tabulations are based on the person's age at diagnosis of AIDS. Adolescent/adult cases include persons 13 years of age and older. Pediatric cases include children under 13 years of age.

### Syphilis

Total early syphilis refers to a diagnosis of primary, secondary or early latent syphilis.

### Sparklines

Sparklines are data-intense, word-sized graphics developed by Edward Tufte. Sparklines are a visual representation of quantitative information. They are a tool that illustrates change and can be used to enhance the decision making process by displaying data in a clear, concise format.